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EDGAR SNOWDEN.

**ALEXANDRIA:**  
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Animated by the example of their brethren in other States, the Whigs of Louisiana and of Alabama are considering the propriety of reorganizing their forces preparatory to an efficient participation in the next elections appointed to be held in those States, as also in the Presidential contest of 1860. Several members of the Legislature of Louisiana, have issued an address, calling upon the Whigs of that State to meet in Convention at New Orleans, on the second Wednesday of next June, in order to perfect their organization and nominate an independent ticket to be supported by the party at the approaching election. The Mobile Advertiser addresses a stirring appeal to the Whigs of Alabama, urging the expediency of holding a State Convention of the opposition at an early day. In their address to the people of Louisiana, the Whig members of the Legislature say:

"The Whig party has slumbered, it has not died. The wisdom of its policy, the conservatism of its principles, the unrivaled endowments of its gallant leader, Clay, who for so long and eventful a period bore its honored banner in the thickest of the fight, all bemoaned its ineffectuality, and all efforts we now make to unfurl its flag once more to the battle and the breeze, farther evidence its vitality, and gives token of our devotion to the organization of our choice, gilded as it is with the most brilliant portions of our political history. Lives there a Whig with emotions so torpid as not to feel his bosom heave with patriotic pride as he reviews the past of our history, studied as every page of this history is, in characters of electric brilliancy, with the proud names of Clay and Webster. Their genius impressed itself with ineffable durability on the policy of the country, whilst their profound statesmanship, comprehending the diversified interests of this great nation, subordinated them all to the solution of the highest problem of political economy in a republican government—the greatest good of the greatest number; and the wisdom of their policy is proved by this, that it has inextricably interwoven itself with the succeeding affairs of our Federal Government, and, like a golden thread, reappears in the current history of our national affairs, alone redeeming them from the just reproach of a disappointed and suffering people. All honor to the old Whig party, for the past of its history is at least secure."

The correspondent of the New York Herald in Buenos Ayres, writing on January 27, informs us that there is a probability of the peaceful settlement of our Paraguayan difficulties. Commissioner Rowlin had had an interview with the plenipotentiaries of the Paraguayan government, and they had expressed an anxious desire for a fair, just and peaceful arrangement with the United States; they further stated that they were authorized to form a treaty with the United States similar to those with England, France, and Sardinia, and were willing to leave to arbitration whatever claims the United States or its citizens might have against Paraguay. Mr. Rowlin made no positive answer, but was to meet the plenipotentiaries at the city of Corrientes within thirty days. The Buenos Ayres Tribune, of January 30, expresses the belief that the next peace will convey the intelligence of the peaceful settlement of this subject, which, with great reason, is attracting the attention of the people of the Plata, and principally that of the Brazilian Empire, in whose interest it could never be to consent that the Colossus of the North should establish its predominance on this side of America."

The New York Courier's Monthly Table of Marine Losses for the past month, shows an aggregate of forty-four vessels, of which seven were ships, five were brigs, eight were brigs, twenty-two were schooners, one a propeller, and one a smack. The total value of property lost was nine hundred and thirty thousand four hundred dollars. This is the value of the property totally lost, exclusive of damage to vessels not amounting to a total loss.

A meeting of prominent Democrats was held in the city of New York, on Tuesday, for the purpose of taking steps to remedy existing abuses of official positions, by the members of the party. It was determined to call a public meeting at Tammany Hall, at an early day, under the auspices of their most respectable men, to promote the purification of the party.

The Masonic Fraternity of Richmond have invited the Rev. J. D. McCabe, of Baltimore, to deliver an address, on the 7th instant, in that city, on the Masonic Character of Washington—the proceeds to go to the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association. A grand display of the venerable order is expected on the occasion.

The Richmond Enquirer says that a rumor is current in that city, that the Examiner will be made a daily paper very soon, under the editorial control of Wm. Old, esq., the State Senator from the Powhatan District. The rumor is based upon the assemblage of several prominent friends of Mr. Hunter in Richmond.

Our latest advices from the Mediterranean squadron, report the U. S. steam-frigate Wabash as having sailed from Spezia for Leghorn, officers and crew all well. The rumor that she was about to proceed on a political mission was unfounded.

We have received the April number of the American Farmer, published in Baltimore. It contains much useful information to farmers.

Col. Johnson, of the New York State Agricultural Society, estimates the wheat crop of 1859 in the United States, at 158,500,000 bushels, as against 180,000,000 for 1858.

Judge Caske, Mr. DeJarnette, and Mr. Thomas, Democratic candidates for Congress in the Richmond District, addressed the citizens of Richmond, on Thursday night.

#### News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

The Utah mail of the 8th inst., has arrived at Leavenworth. Terrible snow storms prevailed on the plains, retarding the mails. The Second District Court was in session at Provo. Thieves of horses and mules were coming numerous, and the perpetrators were threatened with lynch law. The Indians were molesting the California mails, and stealing the animals for food.

The Detroit Advertiser of the 30th ult., says that the uniform testimony of people from all parts of Michigan, is that wheat never before looked so promising, at this season, as at present. It has in no instance been winter killed, and everywhere looks rank and thrifty. Unless attacked by the fly or weevil, the aggregate quantity raised in the State will be larger than ever before.

The board of health of Norfolk have resolved to enforce quarantine regulations from and after the first of April, instead of the 1st of May as heretofore. They have also directed the citizens to clean out their cellars, alleys, lots, etc., and use plenty of lime. The precautions are taken in consequence of the unusual forwardness of the season, which is likely to produce infectious diseases in tropical latitudes.

The fire at Ellicott's Mills on Thursday night has dwindled down to a trifling affair. The Union factory is not damaged at all. The fire originated in a small tenement building on the grounds of the company, some eight hundred feet from the factory, and that alone was destroyed, involving a loss of some \$200 or \$400, upon which there was no insurance.

The Fredericksburg News says:—"There was a discussion on Monday, at King William Court House, between D. C. DeJarnette and Judge Caske. It was conducted with the greatest good feeling. Mr. D. contended that the country was now justly entitled to represent the District, as the city had always hitherto monopolized the honor.

The Gonzales Inquirer of the 12th ult., says: "Several large flocks of sheep have lately passed through town for the different ranches around. The business is still increasing in interest, and we hear of many, not only in our own county, but all over Western Texas, who contemplate going into it at an early day."

Dr. A. W. Smith, the late President of the Wesleyan University, was "surprised" a few days ago, by receiving a check for \$500 from a few of the alumni of the University, as a testimonial of their regard and esteem for him. The Doctor had to abandon the office of president some time ago in consequence of impaired health.

The Baltimore Sun says:—"Seamen still remain scarce in our port, on account of the non-arrival of inward bound vessels now due. Wages and advances are about the same as quoted last week. There is considerable demand for colored seamen for West India and Southern voyages, but there are few in port."

Charles Dickens announces his new periodical to appear on the 30th of April, with the singular title "All Round the Year." A new serial tale by Mr. Dickens will be commenced in the first number. The last number of Household Words will appear on the last Saturday of May.

Gen. R. S. Muse has appointed Edgar B. Montague, esq., of King and Queen county, Inspector of the 14th Brigade of Virginia Militia, comprising the counties of King William, Essex, Westmoreland, Richmond, Northumberland, Lancaster, Middlesex, Matthews, Gloucester, and King and Queen.

The emigration from California to the Atlantic States is increasing. The Northern Light, from Aspinwall, brought 670 passengers, and the Illinois 340. The low fares consequent on the opposition, doubtless have much to do in stimulating this emigration from the Pacific to the Atlantic.

The old mansion of Gov. Wylls on the Charter-Oak Place, Hartford, is being demolished, to make way for a modern house. The old mansion was built two hundred and twenty-two years ago for the royal Governor of the Colony, and the frame of solid English oak, was sent out from England.

The cannon patented in England, by Sir Wm. Armstrong, will send a 32 pound shot, with five pounds of powder, over five miles, and with great accuracy. At 1,000 yards it hit the object every time—the common gun doing so only once in fifty-seven times. It is a breech-loading, rifled gun.

The Savannah Republican notices that ladies go out shopping in that city "in calico or some similar fabric, instead of costly silks, sweeping the pavement with them," and recommends it as an example worthy of imitation.

The Fredericksburg Recorder states that Mr. Letcher intends to speak in Fredericksburg, Richmond, Norfolk, Petersburg, Farmville, Halifax, Danville, Pittsylvania C. H., Lynchburg, Liberty, and such other points as it will be possible for him to reach.

It is said that the purchase of the Washington Union by Gen. Bowman, is significant so far as the aspirations of Mr. Buchanan for a second term are concerned, and that Gen. B. was selected because of his personal relations with the President.

The London Times correspondent says:—"A few days ago the Catholic municipality of Vienna, gave a striking proof of its spirit of religious toleration by contributing 50,000 (i.e., £5000) towards the construction of a Protestant school-house."

The Christy Minstrels, continue their performances in Paris, with increasing success. Their humor and originality, at first not understood by the Parisians, are said to be now fully comprehended and enjoyed.

The Fredericksburg News is requested to contradict the report that Dr. Wm. Quisenberry is a candidate for the House of Delegates, in Caroline county. There has been no "Opposition" nomination.

A story has been going the rounds of the papers, that Mr. Barbee, the sculptor, had married Miss Butt, of Norfolk. Mr. B. has been married for a number of years, and his wife is a most estimable lady.

On Wednesday night the clothing store of Joseph Beldingheimer, on Wide Water street, in Norfolk, was consumed by fire, and the stores of Small & Co. and Doyle & Irwin slightly injured.

The Warrenton Whig calls for 200 majority for Messrs. Hord and Ashby, the Whig candidates for the Legislature, in Fauquier county.

Captain Wylie, of the steamship City of Manchester, recently died on board of that vessel, when near Liverpool, on her outward bound.

In New York, some weeks ago, the store of Isaac Hermann was robbed of \$3,000 worth of jewelry by one of the clerks, who immediately absconded to Europe, taking with him the proceeds of the robbery. The clerk is a nephew of Mr. Hermann, and is named Gerson Cohen. The fugitive was followed to England by his late employer, and tracked to Hull. From there Mr. Hermann traced him to London, and from London to Hamburg, where the fugitive was arrested, and about \$3,000 worth of the stolen property recovered. The police of Hamburg forwarded the accused to Liverpool, where he was put on board the Kangaroo, and forwarded to the United States in charge of his uncle.

Col. Chas. F. M. Garnett, of Va., engineer in chief, and W. S. Ellison, esq., superintendent of the Don Pedro 2d Railroad, in Brazil, have, it is stated, been dismissed for political reasons. It appears that two of the directors of the road were bitter enemies of the two Americans, and being men of great influence, promised three candidates for the Congress of Brazil to secure their election if they could succeed in ousting Messrs. Garnett and Ellison. Subsequently the three candidates managed to have themselves chosen directors, and thus consummated the bargain. A former English contractor on the road is said to have been at the bottom of the affair.

Great excitement has been produced in Greece by the arbitrary and illegal manner in which Alexander Soutza, a celebrated patriotic poet, has been sentenced to five years imprisonment for having, in a pamphlet entitled "The Wanderer," pointed out the systematic violation of the constitution practised under the influence of the Queen, more particularly with regard to the elections. As soon as the result of the trial was known, a multitude assembled in the streets of Athens, and threatened a revolutionary movement. The Government immediately ordered out the troops, and Athens had all the appearance of a city in a state of siege.

An interesting discovery has been accidentally made in the grounds of Dorchester Castle, in England. At the depth of four feet a Roman tessellated pavement was found; one corner had been destroyed. The beautiful centre was fortunately undamaged and entire, as well as the remaining portion of the pavement, together with the threshold. The pavement itself, now measuring ten feet five and a half inches by six feet two inches, was transferred to the chapel of the establishment, and placed within the communion rails. A small coin of Constantine the Great, was found among the rubbish upon it.

A draft for \$268.25, the amount contributed to the Mount Vernon Fund by six companies and band of the 2nd Infantry, stationed at Fort Randall, Nebraska, has been received by Hon. Edward Everett, Mr. Everett is expected to pronounce his "Franklin" oration in Richmond, Va., on Friday, 8th of April, at the invitation of the Young Men's Christian Association, for the benefit of the Orphan Societies and other charities.

The New York Herald says: "The merchants of Albany have opened a war upon the old copper cents—the greatest nuisance in the currency of the country. They are worth their weight in copper, and that is all, and the sooner we are rid of them the better will everybody be pleased. In the South and Southwest, a bushel of copper cents would not purchase a bushel of corn. The people of those localities will not look at them, except in the way of curiosity. Away with them. They are dirty things and an injury to the eyesight."

The Altoona (Pa.) Tribune states that a couple of boys of that place indulged in a game of golf, one day last week, which, in one hour, proved fatal to one of them. One of the lads placed his neck upon a block, and the other picked up an axe and played the part of executioner. Fortunately the victim struggled sufficient to remove his neck from the block, but the descending axe caught two of his fingers, one of which was entirely and the other partially cut off. We should think it will be some time before that boy plays that game again.

Here is a Yorkshire paragraph, showing that the grotesque ignorance recorded by Charlotte Bronte and Mrs. Gaskell, has not yet vanished:—"The Doncaster Gazette has been voted out of the various news rooms at Thorne, and a copy of it carried round that town on a gibbet, in the midst of a torchlight procession, headed by a drum and fife band, and publicly burned in the market place, for having stated that that place was one of the worst educated towns in the West Riding of Yorkshire."

There are unfavorable accounts from the Sandwich Islands, concerning the brig Morning Star, the missionary packet lately built by contributions of the Sunday School children in the Atlantic States. The Honolulu Commercial Advertiser, says she has put into that port for repairs. Not only were the timbers so rotten that they could be easily picked to pieces with the fingers, but the whole stern was a curious combination of rot and decay, made up of the refuse odds and ends of a shipyard.

The editor of the Fredericksburg Herald has seen a monster tooth, which was picked up on a farm in Spotsylvania, some five miles from town, which weighed over three pounds. It was over three inches cross-wise in the jaw, and some four or five inches from front to back, though as a portion of it was broken off it may have been half a yard long. It was a fine large pronged tooth, which by its pressure upon the ball was injuring the eye. The operation was skillfully performed in the presence of several of the medical faculty of the town. The child is doing well.

At the late meeting of the Council of Fredericksburg, Mayor Scott recommended Messrs. James Taylor and John W. Collins for the post of Policemen, which nominations were confirmed.

An Englishman, named Adams, in New York, on Wednesday, walked seven miles in 55 minutes.

#### The Uniform Currency Act for Virginia.

The act passed April 2, 1858, providing for a more uniform currency of the Banks of this State, goes into effect to-day. (April 1.) The provisions of the bill are as follows:

Sec. 1, makes it the duty of every branch of a Bank in addition to the redemption now required, to redeem on demand, all circulating notes issued or payable by such branch which may be presented for payment at the parent Bank of such branch, at a rate of discount not exceeding one fourth of one per cent, provided that the other branches of the branch Bank shall redeem at the exchange thereof, established in Richmond.

Sec. 2, requires every independent bank to establish an agency for the redemption of its notes in Richmond or Baltimore; in addition to the redemption now required by law—a failure to do so, to be punishable by a fine of \$100 for the first offence, and 500 for each separate violation of the law thereafter.

Sec. 3, makes it the duty of the Bank, in addition to the redemption now required by law to redeem the notes issued, or payable by it, which may be presented at the agency thereof, at a discount of not more than one-fourth of one per cent.

Sec. 4, provides that where over \$500 of the notes of a Bank are presented at the Bank for redemption, it may redeem them by a specie draft on its agency in Richmond or Baltimore.

Sec. 5, provides that no Bank or branch thereof shall give any certificate of deposit, draft, or other evidence of debt, which is not payable in specie.

Sec. 6, provides that no Bank or branch thereof shall give the bills or notes of any other Bank or branch, excepting such as it will receive at par, in payment of debts due the Bank.

Sec. 7, provides that no Bank shall, directly or indirectly, ban its bills or notes for circulation, to any person, persons or corporations, under any agreement or understanding that such person, or persons or corporation shall protect or guarantee the circulation of such or any other bills or notes issued by the Bank, or redeem the same when payment has been demanded.

In this connection, we may mention that under the "Bank Denomination Bill," passed March 2, 1858, the circulation of bank notes under \$20, is prohibited after the 31st of December, 1859.—Rich. Dispatch.

#### Flood on the Mississippi.

The Lower Mississippi is again desolating the country. At the mouth of White river, on Thursday last, it was reported that the Mississippi was an inch higher than at any previous time during the season. The Missouri and Pacific, just arrived at Louisville, report the river rising all the way from New Orleans to Cairo; and along in Kentucky bend, and various other points, the water was out of all bounds, with nothing but water and the tops of trees to be seen as far as the eye could reach. There are more breaks in the levees than last year, and the destruction of property will be enormous. The latest news from the Missouri is that it was still rising rapidly, joining its mighty flood to the overflowing of the Ohio. The Memphis Federalist of Saturday evening says:

The most disastrous results are apprehended from the late break in the levee at Friar's Point. The water is breaking through with such violence and with such force as to threaten the washing away of the houses in its course. Great damage has already been caused. A break has occurred in the levee at Indian Bay Landing on White river, where the water is six inches above the flood line of last year. Several fine plantations are from twelve to fifteen inches under water, and hundreds of acres of early planted corn destroyed.

The Memphis Avalanche of Saturday says:—

The river is within twelve and one-fourth inches of the high water mark of the spring of 1858, and within six and one-fourth inches of the height of the late rise. At Grand Lake, the water was over the top of the bank, fully one foot higher than it was last year, and boats land against the houses.

The New Orleans boats, owing to the overflow, are unable to take any freights along the Mississippi, unless to points where where boats are loaded on to the various towns along the river. Plantation orders they cannot fill.

Despatches from Vicksburg, dated Saturday, the 26th, state that the river had overflowed the banks below that point, the levees along the railroad had broken, and the railroad track was washed away for a considerable distance. The particulars of the disaster were not given.—Continued Commercial.

#### The Crops.

The wheat in this region is recovering rapidly from the effects of the drowning-out process to which it was so frequently been subjected since the winter set in. That is to say, that portion of it not winter-killed. We have scarcely seen a field this spring not more or less injured from being winter-killed—many to the extent of two-thirds of all that vegetated in the fall. That proportion, however, is far too great for the average wheat, which is not more than that fourth, at most. The present season so far, has been so fine for the growth of the grasses, as fully to make up to the farmer we apprehend, for his losses from the cause mentioned above. In ten years we have seen no such promise on the first of April of a heavy yield of grasses, perhaps more important to the balance sheet of most farmers immediately around Washington, than the wheat crop.

The prospect for a heavy yield of the orchards in this region, too, is finer than ever before in our remembrance. The peach trees are every where loaded with bloom, and the apple trees are putting forth their beautiful leaves with unwonted vigor. It does our heart good to perceive such signs of a bountiful dispensation from Providence, upon whom the success of every man's labor depends.

In a fortnight, if the present weather holds, the limits of the fine forests around the Federal Metropolis will be clothing themselves in pale green, to be followed by their summer dress of a richer—more intense—hue, ere the first of May shall be upon us. On the whole, "the season" here is at least three weeks earlier than usual.—Wash. Star.

#### The Susquehanna Lumber Trade.

Large quantities of lumber and timber are now arriving at Wrightsville, Columbia, and Marietta, Pa. Over fifty rafts of lumber were lying along the shore on Wednesday. The Wrightsville Star says:

"Buyers of the latter are generally holding off for either better qualities or lower prices, though we learn that firms owning the mills in this place have purchased upwards of forty rafts, up to Tuesday evening, at fair rates. The prices as yet are irregular, varying as higher. There was lying at the wharf at Marietta, on Monday last, a raft of pine timber, valued by its owner at over \$2,000. The raft consisted of some fifty stacks of timber, for which the owner asked \$40 per log. One of the logs was 90 feet long, and another 84 feet."

In New York, on Thursday night, a Californian named Charles T. Feeny, was met opposite French's hotel by two sharpers, and led off to see "some good sights" which they promised to show him. In their tour they got him into the Park, and there garrotted him, and robbed him of \$15 in gold, a draft for \$1200, and a gold ring. Feeny made an alarm but the robbers escaped.

#### From Washington.

WASHINGTON, April 1.—The Navy Department has named the new third-class steamers as follows: That at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, the "Molican," that at Boston, "Narragansett," at Brooklyn, "Trogus," the large one at Philadelphia "Wyoming," and the small one "Pawnee," at Norfolk "the boat," at Pensacola, "Seminoles," and the one at Mare Island, California, "Sagittary."

From official advices received to-day, it appears that the steam frigate Minnesota reached Bombay on the 10th of January, having on board ex-Minister Reid who left on the 25th for Suez. The frigate had visited Singapore and Penang, and several ports in Ceylon. She occasioned everywhere, expressions of surprise and admiration, as she has ever done in the East. In a few days she was to leave for Muscat, in Arabia, passing from there to the Cape of Good Hope, and probably touching at Zanzibar.

A letter from the Commander of the Savannah, dated Vera Cruz, March 11, confirms the former report of the defeat of Miravalles, and the success of the Constitutionalists in the interior, and their advance on the city of Mexico.

It is probable that ex-Senator Jones, of Iowa, will withdraw his declination of the Bogota mission.

There are at least twenty applicants for the vacant Commissionership of Patents and Indian Affairs, which will not be appointed for a week to come.

The failure in the arrival at Annapolis of the British steamer Curacoa, with Lord Lyons, the new British Minister, excites additional fears for her safety.

A dispatch from Charleston, S. C., says the Courier, contains a telegraphic despatch from Washington, that war in Europe had actually commenced, and that Gen. Sanders had brought a despatch to that effect to the President. Mr. Miles, a member of Congress from Charleston, telegraphed back that Lord Napier knew nothing about the truth of the report; but the Courier fails to be convinced.

It is well understood that the Cabinet to-day, under consideration the subject of Central American affairs. The advice from the commander of the Jamestown, confirm the newspaper statements relative to certain events in Nicaragua. Our Government has nothing from an official source later than the 25th of February, relative to the treaties, when that of Sir Gore Ouseley, of commerce, navigation and transit, had been ratified, with an additional article to the effect that Nicaragua surrendered none of her rights over the Mosquito territory. The Mosquitoes, it was at that time pending, government and the Cas-irra treaty had not been acted on. Our government will accordingly await further reliable intelligence before it can act decisively, so far as Great Britain is concerned.

If it shall appear that Sir G. Ouseley has transgressed to violate his instructions, a formal protest will be made of England to disavow his acts, if she shall not so voluntarily. It is thought, however, she will carry out in good faith the understanding with the government relative to the settlement of the irritating questions growing out of the different interpretations of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, nor is it improbable, should Nicaragua ratify all the British treaties and reject ours, that Minister Lamar will be withdrawn and Gen. Jerez, the Nicaraguan Minister, be tendered his passports: such is the position of the question, according to the last available information, but much depends on the character of future official advices from Nicaragua.

Our vessels will, it is said, be concentrated at the most exposed points for the protection of the persons and property of American citizens within their reach. To proceed to the interior of the country would be an act of war which will not be committed; but there is no doubt, from what has recently transpired, that the President will exert to the utmost extent all the powers conferred upon him by the Constitution and laws.

Minister Rowlin writes hopefully of arranging satisfactorily the difficulties with Paraguay.

Interesting Information.

The following is a copy of an important decision which has emanated from the General Land Office:

Sir: In reply to the question propounded in your letter of the 23d inst., I have to state:

1. That the bounty land warrants issued by the United States are declared, by the act of Congress approved June 3, 1858, to be personal property.

2. That such warrant cannot be sold by an administrator of the estate of a deceased owner, for the payment of debts contracted by such warrant.

3. That such warrant, when issued during the lifetime of the warrantee, and not disposed of by him, become, if he die intestate, the property of his heirs at law, in accordance with the law of domicile, and cannot be attached and sold for the payment of his debts. [If he die intestate, see fifth paragraph following.]

4. That warrants issued after the death of the warrantee, but upon proof filed during his lifetime, become the property of his widow, if there be one, and, if no widow, then the property of his heirs at law without regard to their age.

5. The proceeds of the sale of a warrant, made by an administrator, is the absolute property of the widow herself, or legatees, without regard to any debt contracted by the warrantee; but the practice of this office has been to recognize assignments properly made by an administrator for distribution of the proceeds among the heirs at law, after payment of the funeral and proper court expenses. [Attorney's and administrator's fees, not taxed by the Court, are not regarded as proper court expenses.]

6. The rules of this office require, in all cases, when a warrant has been sold by an executor, that a duly certified copy of the will, with letters testamentary shall be attached to the warrant, and, in cases where a sale is made by an administrator or guardian, that certified copies of the letters of administration or guardianship shall be attached; and that the sale has been made for the use of the heirs only, must be shown either in the assignment or in the papers submitted with each case.

Harpes Ferry Armory.

We learn that 41 men were discharged at the Harpes Ferry Armory, on Saturday week. This increases the number of hands we learn, thrown out of employment since the 1st day of January, to about 80 men—including 9 Inspectors. The force of the Armory on the 1st day of January was 360; it is now 290. Further deduction will be made. Per diem wages have been reduced ten per cent. These curtailments are rendered imperative by the financial condition of the Armory—and the decrease of the appropriation bill in the last Congress.

Mr. Barbour has but just entered upon the discharge of his duties as Superintendent, and we believe that the necessity which exists for the curtailment of the force of the Armory, is a matter of regret to him.—Charleston Free Press.

#### Poisoning.

The frequency with which poisonings cases occur in this city and throughout the country, is sufficiently alarming to awaken Legislatures to the necessity of regulating by strict legal enactments the sale of poisons. Yesterday the Court of Oyer and Terminer in this city sentenced to the last dread penalty of the law James Stephens, convicted of the murder of his wife by administering arsenic. To-day we publish from a special correspondent, a report of the trial, conviction and sentence in Rappahannock county, Virginia, of another man—James H. Johnson—for a similar crime. The two cases present some very curious analogies.

The object of both murderers was identical—each wanted to get rid of his wife, that he might the better carry out his design against the niece of that wife; both resorted to the same means, poison; and both administered the deadly drug without any precaution as to secrecy.

In the Virginia case, strychnine was the poison selected. It was administered in a glass of lemonade, being the most effective of all administered by cyclism. It was given in the presence of a neighbor, but under curious circumstances. The poisoner brought into the room where his wife and visitor were seated two glasses of lemonade, handed one to the wife, and retained the other for himself. She remarked to him that it would be more polite to attend first to his guest, and to that he rejoined that his guest could help himself from the pitcher, but that the lemonade in her glass contained a bitter which, he said, the doctor had recommended for her. She tasted the liquid, but objected to its intense bitterness. One part of strychnine will make bitter nearly a million parts of water. He prevailed on her to swallow the nauseous draught, and then took the glass to accompany his friend home. In an hour or two the poison did its work.

The same facility to procure poison appears to prevail equally in Virginia as in New York. Johnson had as little difficulty in getting from an apothecary twenty-five cents worth of strychnine, as Stephens in getting six cents worth of arsenic. The perpetration of murder and of suicide by poison are becoming so common that some effort must be made to put a stop to the unrestricted sale of poison. Let it be made a penitentiary offence for any druggist to sell, or have sold in his store, any poison, except on the certificate of a physician, or, if for mechanical purposes, on the license of the Mayor. Such a law would do much to put a stop to the murderous use of poison.—N. Y. Herald.

#### The Revolution in Chili.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Pennsylvania, writing from Valparaiso, gives some interesting particulars of the progress of the revolutionary outbreak in Chili. On the 3d of January, a battle was fought at Concepcion, resulting in the success of the government troops, after about 500 had been killed and wounded on both sides. Two other battles subsequently took place, in one of which (at San Felipe) 600 were killed and wounded. Of this engagement the writer remarks:

"It is said that the officer in command of the government troops, in order to execute his plan, stated to them that if victorious they would be granted three hours to plunder and do just as they pleased with persons and things within their reach. As soon as the enemy was driven from the city, the work of plunder and outrage commenced. All the business houses, stores and private residences were forcibly entered and robbed. Not only were the dwellings of respectable citizens robbed and damaged, but the female inmates of families, and, in some instances, were brutally outraged. The sun-dry doors were forced open, and deeds of the most revolting and disgraceful character perpetrated."

At Valparaiso a thirty-two pound shot fired from a government war steamer, passed through the house of the United States vice-consul, greatly damaging the house and furniture.

#### Accident.

The steamer Virginia left here about 2 o'clock on the morning of Tuesday last, the night being dark, and the weather thick and foggy. When about five miles down the river, she struck a log, which two of her planks were somewhat crushed, between the timbers, in two different places. She commenced leaking, and Capt. Fairbank set the pumps to work at once, determining to push on to Baltimore, and not check the pumps by stopping at the usual landings on the river. Such passengers as were en route for river landings, got off at Port Royal. On reaching Tappahannock, the Captain ran the boat on the flats, and the vessel was hoisted as was stated in the port or left side of the boat, all of the wheel. The leak was got at from the inside of the hull by going down into the freight hold. The injured planks were pressed out, the cracks chinked with oakum and wedges of pine, and the whole covered with sheet lead. So effectually was the leak stopped, that she took in no water from Tappahannock to Baltimore, and the boat made her usual landings at points below.—Fredericksburg Herald.

Modern Warfare.

Sir Charles Shaw, in a letter to the London Times, reviews an article which recently appeared in that journal, to the effect that now, from the improved "arms of precision," death with unfailing certainty, will reach the remotest quarter of the field, and sweep away every living thing. He says that unless these improved arms are used scientifically, and with will not be sent with unerring certainty, and in this is the great difficulty. He proceeds to say Armstrong's guns, and those constructed by Vincennes, will revolutionize the whole system of siege and sea warfare, yet that it can be shown the lighter the arms of destruction the more efficacious it will be. He contrasts his rifle-battery, which consists of twenty-four barrels, with the artillery with which they are practising at Vincennes, and which can put twenty musket balls at 2,000 yards into a square foot of target, and he says his instrument has the advantage in range,